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Ex Parte

March 19, 2021

By ECF

Hon. Jesse M. Furman
United States District Judge
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
40 Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Re: United States V. Mustapha Raji
19 cr. 870 (JMF)

Dear Judge Furman:

I represent Mr. Raji in the above-referenced matter. Kindly accept this letter as a request for an Order authorizing the appointment of Dylan Schneider¹ as a paralegal, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3599(a)(2)(f).

Mr. Schneider is a recent graduate of The George Washington University with a Bachelors of Business Administration majoring in Sports Management and minoring in Criminal Justice. A copy of his resume is enclosed for the Court's consideration.

Mr. Schneider familiarizes himself with, and gets involved in every aspect of trial preparation through the sentencing. He may meet with the client, review, digest, and catalogue the discovery, attend court conferences and assist during trial. He will be able to complete this work expeditiously and at a great savings to the Court.

¹ Out of an abundance of caution and in the interest of full transparency, Dylan and I share the same last name because he is my son.

Initially, we request the approval of 50 hours at a rate of \$55.00 per hour. If, after these initial hours, it is determined that more time is necessary, a further application will be made to the Court. Additionally, we request authorization for Mr. Schneider to submit interim vouchers.

If this request meets with the Court's approval, please endorse this letter as SO ORDERED with the proviso that copies may be made available to counsel.

If you need any additional information regarding this request, please contact my office at your convenience. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Jeremy Schneider

Encl.

The Court appreciates counsel's disclosure of the relationship and has no reason to doubt counsel's (or his son's) good faith, but concludes that, at least in these circumstances (namely, where the services do not require particular expertise and there is no strong argument for the appointment of the particular person) it is not appropriate to use CJA funds to pay the relative of counsel applying for funds. Accordingly, the request is denied without prejudice to a new application for someone other than counsel's son.

The Clerk of Court is directed to terminate ECF No. 62.

SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. M. [unclear]", written in a cursive style.

March 22, 2021